

2002 Annual Report Executive Summary

FUTURO Empowerment Zone (also a Round II EC)

The FUTURO Empowerment Zone has had success in several community development projects including HUD's Youthbuild Program and in the area of capacity building. During 2002, the Board of Directors faced the challenge of re-inventing itself based on the new federal regulations aimed at effective board governance. The process, while timely and expensive, has resulted in one of the best changes the organization has made. Without taking credit from the previous Board of Directors, for they surely have contributed to the success of the enterprise community becoming an empowerment zone, the new board is now a more hands on group and because of the nature of the election process, is ready to provide the guidance and direction to carry the organization into its maturity. FUTURO has embarked on several activities which include the building a Community Educational Center in its smallest community, thanks to a grant from USDA's Community Facilities program. The future looks bright for FUTURO.